

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A closure for resealably closing a container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the contact between the spud and the interior surface of the spout enhances the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced by the contact between spud and the spout, the spout cover has a height measured from the lid member that is greater than a height of the spud such that a distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is in the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

2. (original) The closure of claim 1 further comprising a continuous, annular seal extending downwardly from an underside of the deck, whereby the annular seal and the

sealing contact between the spout and the spout cover inhibit vapor infiltration into a head-space within the closure.

3. (canceled)
4. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the spud is elongate and continuous.
5. (currently amended) A The closure of claim 1 further comprising for resealably closing a container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position;

[[a]] an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced, and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is in the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

6. (currently amended) The closure of claim 5 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

7. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the spout cover includes a spout cover bead extending inwardly from the spout cover interior surface, the spout cover bead engaging the spout exterior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.

8. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the spout includes a spout bead extending outwardly from the spout exterior surface, the spout bead engaging the spout cover interior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.

9. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the spout cover includes a spout cover bead extending inwardly from the spout cover interior surface and a spout bead extending outwardly from the spout exterior surface, the spout cover bead engaging the spout exterior surface and the spout bead engaging the spout cover interior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.

10. (original) The closure of claim 9 wherein the spout cover bead includes an upper surface, a lower surface, and a tip therebetween, and the spout bead includes an upper surface, a lower surface, and a tip therebetween, the spout cover bead tip contacting the spout exterior surface and the spout bead tip contacting the spout cover interior surface while the cap is in the closed position.

11. (original) The closure of claim 10 wherein the spout cover bead upper surface contacts the spout bead lower surface while the cap is in the closed position such that the spout cover is locked onto the spout.

12. (original) The closure of claim 9 wherein the spout is continuous about the orifice.
13. (original) The closure of claim 12 wherein the spout cover is continuous about the spout while the cap is in the closed position.
14. (original) The closure of claim 13 wherein the spout bead is continuous about the spout and the spout cover bead is continuous about the spout cover.
15. (previously presented) The closure of claim 1 wherein the cap further includes a thumb tab extending outwardly from the sidewall.
16. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the top deck is substantially circular and the skirt is substantially cylindrical.
17. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the hinge includes a flexible web including a first end coupled to the skirt and an opposing second end coupled to the cover sidewall, the web capable of urging the cap toward either one of the open position or the closed position, whereby the hinge is a snap action hinge.
18. (original) The closure of claim 9 wherein the body includes an annular recess formed at a periphery of the top deck, the annular recess including a seating surface, a distal lip of the cover sidewall contacting the seating surface upon the spout cover bead engaging the spout cover bead to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.
19. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the orifice is a slot including substantially parallel opposing sides and curved ends therebetween.
20. (canceled)

21. (previously presented) The closure of claim 1 wherein the orifice is spaced apart from a longitudinal centerline of the closure.

22. (currently amended) A container package including:
a container including a container body, a neck disposed on the container body, and container threads formed on an exterior surface of the neck; and
a closure for resealably closing the container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including closure threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced by the contact between spud and the spout, the spout cover has a height measured from the lid member that is greater than a height of the spud such that a distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

23. (original) The container package of claim 22 further comprising a liner disposed between a rim of the container neck and the closure body and a continuous, annular seal extending downwardly from an underside of the deck, the annular seal forming a seal between the liner and the closure body.

24. (previously presented) The container package of claim 22 wherein the annular seal includes a projection including an angular tip formed thereon that deforms a portion of the liner.

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) The container package of ~~claim 25~~ claim 22 wherein the spud is elongate and continuous.

27. (currently amended) The A container package of ~~claim 22 further~~ comprising a container including a container body, a neck disposed on the container body, and container threads formed on an exterior surface of the neck; and

a closure for resealably closing the container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including closure threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing

contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position;

[[a]] an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced, and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

28. (currently amended) The container package of claim 27 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

29. (canceled)

30. (canceled)

31. (new) The closure of claim 1 further comprising an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

32. (new) The closure of claim 31 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

33. (new) The container package of claim 22 further comprising an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

34. (new) The container package of claim 33 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

35. (new) A closure for resealably closing a container, the closure comprising:
a closure body including an upwardly extending spout that defines at least part of an orifice and has a length that is greater than its width;
a cap including a downwardly depending spud and a downwardly depending spout cover, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spud being disposed generally within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the spout cover having a height that is greater than a height of the spud such that a distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between the open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout, whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is in the open position and the cap prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

36. (new) The closure of claim 35 wherein the closure body includes a top deck and a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, the spout extends from a surface of the top deck.

37. (new) The closure of claim 36 wherein the cap includes a lid member such that the spud and the spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member.

38. (new) The closure of claim 37 wherein the cap includes a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member

39. (new) The closure of claim 35 wherein the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout form a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position, thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout.

40. (new) The closure of claim 39 wherein the closure body includes an upwardly extending other spud disposed substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

41. (new) The closure of claim 40 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

42. (new) A container package including:

a container including a container body, a neck disposed on the container body, and container threads formed on an exterior surface of the neck; and

a closure for resealably closing the container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including an upwardly extending spout that defines at least part of an orifice and has a length that is greater than its width;

a cap including a downwardly depending spud and a downwardly depending spout cover, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spud being disposed generally within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the spout cover having a height that is greater than a

height of the spud such that a distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between the open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout, whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is the open position and the cap prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

43. (new) The container package of claim 42 wherein the closure body includes a top deck and a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, the spout extends from a surface of the top deck.

44. (new) The container package of claim 43 wherein the cap includes a lid member such that the spud and the spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member.

45. (new) The container package of claim 44 wherein the cap includes a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member.

46. (new) The container package of claim 42 wherein the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout form a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position, thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout.

47. (new) The container package of claim 46 wherein the closure body includes an upwardly extending other spud disposed substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

48. (new) The container package of claim 47 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.